

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 107342 TOSEC 040244  
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TAGS: PFOR (VANCE, CYPRUS R.)

SUBJECT: REACTIONS TO NATO SUMMIT

1. FOLLOWING IS INR ROUND-UP OF SIGNIFICANT OFFICIAL AND MEDIA REACTIONS TO NATO SUMMIT AVAILABLE AS OF 4 PM, WASHINGTON TIME, MAY 12.
2. EXCEPT IN USSR AND OTHER WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES, REACTIONS WERE ALMOST ALL HIGHLY LAUDATORY. KEY ASPECTS WERE:

--PRAISE FOR THE PRESIDENT'S STYLE AND DEMONSTRATION OF LEADERSHIP;

--THE ALLIES' ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION OF HIS SPEECH AND OVERALL PERFORMANCE;

--APPROVAL OF THE PERCEIVED US INTENT TO ADOPT A NEW APPROACH TO THE ALLIANCE, INCLUDING GREATER COOPERATION

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PAGE 02 STATE 107342 TOSEC 040244

IN THE ARMS FIELD;

--THE APPARENT LACK OF ANY COMMENTARY SO FAR FROM ROMANIA AND YUGOSLAVIA;

--CHINESE APPROVAL, BY SELECTIVE QUOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH, OF US DETERMINATION TO STRENGTHEN NATO.

2. USSR: SOVIET MEDIA DEPICTED THE NATO MEETING AS YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF WESTERN DISUNITY. THEY ALLEGED THAT MILITARY EFFORTS WERE BEING BOOSTED TO CONCEAL THE ACUTE ECONOMIC CONTRADICTIONS AMONG THE PARTICIPANTS. PRESIDENT CARTER AND PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN WERE ATTACKED FOR MAKING "HACKNEYED ASSERTIONS ABOUT THE SOVIET MILITARY THREAT," WHICH THE OTHER EUROPEAN LEADERS "FAILED" TO SUPPORT. THE PRESIDENT WAS PARTICULARLY CASTIGATED FOR USING SUCH ALLEGEDLY FALSE SLOGANS TO STIMULATE INCREASED WEAPONS PURCHASES FROM THE US. TASS HAD EARLIER PREDICTED THAT WASHINGTON WOULD HEAR CRITICAL VOICES ABOUT ITS "SHORT-SIGHTED" SALT POSITION BUT SUBSEQUENT COMMENTARY HAS IGNORED THIS THEME.

3. EASTERN EUROPE: THE MEDIA OF EAST GERMANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND HUNGARY BELABORED THE ALLEGED DISUNITY, INTERNAL CONTRADICTIONS, AND DIFFERENCES THAT EXIST AMONG THE WESTERN ALLIES. ROMANIA MEDIA HAVE NOT YET COMMENTED. THE MEDIA OF NONALIGNED YUGOSLAVIA ALSO HAVE NOT YET COMMENTED.

4. CHINA: A NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY DISPATCH OF MAY 11 INDIRECTLY EXPRESSED PEKING'S APPROVAL OF THE US POSITION AT THE NATO SUMMIT BY SELECTIVELY QUOTING FROM PRESIDENT CARTER'S ADDRESS. IT HIGHLIGHTED THE PRESIDENT'S:

--DETERMINATION TO "MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN" THE ALLIANCE "POLITICALLY, ECONOMICALLY, AND MILITARILY,"  
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PAGE 03 STATE 107342 TOSEC 040244

--INTENT "TO MAINTAIN THE US NUCLEAR DETERRENT AND MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE CONVENTIONAL FORCES" IN EUROPE IN THE FACE OF "THE THREAT FACING THE ALLIANCE," WHICH "HAS GROWN STEADILY IN RECENT YEARS."

5. WESTERN EUROPE

6. WEST GERMANY

--CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, IN TWO TELEVISION INTERVIEWS IN LONDON ON MAY 10 SAID THAT "BILLIONS CAN BE SAVED" IF ONE ARMS SYSTEM IS JOINTLY DEVELOPED AND IMPLEMENTED WITHIN THE ALLIANCE. HE APPLAUDED PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENT THAT NATO IS A "TWO-WAY STREET." RECALLING THE PRESIDENT'S CHARACTERIZATION OF MBFR AS A "NECESSITY," HE DECLARED THAT IT HAD BEEN AN "IMPORTANT, DECLARED GOAL" OF WEST GERMANY FOR A DECADE. THE OFFICIAL FRG PRESS SPOKESMAN SAID ON MAY 11 THAT BONN WAS "PROFOUNDLY

SATISFIED" WITH THE RESULTS OF THE ECONOMIC AND THE NATO SUMMITS.

--AN EDITORIAL IN THE MAY 11 FRANKFURTER ALLEGEMEINE SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD "MET THE OLD CONTINENT'S YEARNING FOR LEADERSHIP...AND RADIATED FIRMNESS, OPTIMISM, AND RESOLUTION." WITH HIS SPEECH, NATO "REGAINED ITS SELF-CONFIDENCE." BUT, THE ARTICLE CONTINUED, GERMANY, ALTHOUGH TREATED "RESPECTFULLY," IS STILL "KEPT AT A DISTANCE," FRANCE "HAS BEEN PRESSED INTO EVEN GREATER ISOLATION," WHILE US-BRITISH RELATIONS HAVE HAD THEIR "OLD CORDIALITY" RESTORED.

--AN ARTICLE IN THE MAY 11 DIE WELT SAW PRESIDENT CARTER'S "HANDWRITING" IN THE LONDON DECLARATION ON BERLIN.

--THE STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG COMMENTED ON MAY 11 THAT THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 STATE 107342 TOSEC 040244

"OUTSTANDING" EVENT OF THE NATO SUMMIT WAS THE PRESIDENT'S PROMISE OF INTENSIFIED COOPERATION IN THE ARMAMENTS FIELD.

7. FRANCE: AN EDITORIAL IN THE MAY 12 LE MONDE PRAISED PRESIDENT CARTER'S CHARM AND "OPEN, DIRECT, DETERMINED CHARACTER" AND SAID THAT HIS ALLIANCE PARTNERS "HAVE EVERY REASON TO BE SATISFIED BY HIS SPEECH TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL. BUT, THE EDITORIAL WONDERED:

--"WHETHER HE WILL KNOW HOW TO DEMONSTRATE THE QUALITIES IMPLIED BY THIS NOTION OF 'LEADERSHIP'"; AND

--"BY WHAT MAGIC FORMULA A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN THE COSTS IN THE LONG-TERM MILITARY PLANS...CAN BE BORNE BY ECONOMIES ALREADY IN RECESSION AND BY POLITICAL SITUATIONS WHICH ARE ALREADY UNSTABLE."

THE EDITORIAL THEN LISTED AREAS WHERE THE PRESIDENT HAS HAD TO "WATER THE WINE OF HIS FIRST PROPOSALS," WHICH "SOMEWHAT WEAKENS HIS AUTHORITY":

--MODERATION OF "HIS MILITANCE" CONCERNING HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE EAST; AND

--RESIGNATION TO THE FRG-BRAZILIAN REPROCESSING FACILITY, AND PROBABLE FUTURE MODERATION OF HIS INITIAL AIMS WHEN FACED BY THE NUCLEAR ENERGY NEEDS OF GERMANY, FRANCE, JAPAN, AND THE DEVELOPING NATIONS.

8. BRITAIN: MAJOR PAPERS CALLED PRESIDENT'S PERFORMANCE STRONG AND DETERMINED AND REPORTED THE WARM APPROVAL OF

THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH BY OTHER NATO MEMBERS.

--THE TIMES DEPUTY EDITOR, LOUIS HEREN, COMMENTED ON

MAY 11 THAT THE PRESIDENT "DEMONSTRATED THAT HE IS NOT  
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PAGE 05 STATE 107342 TOSEC 040244

ANOTHER AMERICAN PRESIDENT WITH A GRAND DESIGN TO IMPOSE  
UPON LESSER ALLIES."

--THE DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT FOR THE DAILY TELEGRAPH  
WROTE ON MAY 11 THAT THE LEADERS WHO MET THE PRESIDENT  
WERE "RELIEVED TO FIND HIM A QUIET, PERCEPTIVE AND STRONG-  
MINDED LEADER, NOT THE BLAZING-EYED, BIBLE-THUMPING  
MORALIZER OF REPUTE."

--A FINANCIAL TIMES' REPORTER COMMENTED ON MAY 11  
THAT THE PRESIDENT "DELIGHTED HIS EUROPEAN ALLIES BY  
GOING FURTHER THAN ANY OTHER US LEADER IN GIVING ASSURANCES  
THAT THE US WOULD SEEK OPPORTUNITIES TO BUY DEFENSE  
EQUIPMENT IN EUROPE."

9. ITALY: MOST COMMENTS HAILED THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH  
AS A SIGN OF A NEW US POLITICAL APPROACH.

--THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COLUMNIST OF THE CORREIERE DELLA  
SERA WROTE ON MAY 11 THAT THE PRESIDENT "NOT ONLY RECOG-  
NIZES THE ROLE OF WESTERN EUROPE BUT SEEMS TO DEVOTE MORE  
ATTENTION TO EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WHICH SHOULD BE  
DRAWN INTO COOPERATIVE UNDERTAKINGS."

--IL TEMPO'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS EDITOR NOTED ON MAY 11 THAT  
"THERE IS INCREASING WILLINGNESS TO EMPHASIZE THE  
EUROPEAN ROLE INSIDE THE ALLIANCE."

--A FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE IN THE MAY 11 IL GIORNALE SAID  
THAT THE SPEECH WAS REMARKABLE FOR AT LEAST THREE  
REASONS: THE PRESIDENT REAFFIRMED THAT THE ALLIANCE  
IS THE HEART OF HIS COUNTRY'S FOREIGN POLICY AND  
ADVOCATED A REVISION; AFFIRMED THAT DETENTE IS STILL A  
GREAT OBJECTIVE OF WESTERN POLICY BUT THAT THE SOVIETS'  
AGGRESSIVE POTENTIAL CANNOT BE IGNORED; AND PUT RELATIONS  
WITH THE ALLIES ON A NEW BASIS, PROPOSING MORE FRIENDLY  
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PAGE 06 STATE 107342 TOSEC 040244

AND FRANK CONSULTATIONS THAN IN PAST.

10. GREECE: THE GOVERNMENT-OPERATED TV AND RADIO PORTRAYED THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH CARAMANLIS IN A FAVORABLE LIGHT. MOST ATHENS NEWSPAPERS, ON THE OTHER HAND, STRESSED THE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS AFTER HIS MEETING WITH DEMIREL, VIEWING THEM AS AN INDICATION THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS SHOWN A PRO-TURKISH ATTITUDE. "THE ESSENTIAL RATIONALE BEHIND CARTER'S WORDS," THE PRESS REASONED, "WAS THE US CONVICTION THAT TURKEY WAS THE KEYSTONE OF THE NATO ALLIANCE IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND THAT CARTER SOUGHT TO ASSIST DEMIREL IN THE JUNE 5 ELECTIONS IN TURKEY."

11. TURKEY: MAJOR PAPERS EMPHASIZED THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT THAT CYPRUS AND ARMS SALES TO TURKEY CANNOT BE TIED TO EACH OTHER. IN GENERAL, THE MEDIA HAVE REACTED IN PARTISAN FASHION, THE MODERATE OPPOSITION CRITICIZING DEMIREL AND THE FAR LEFT CONDEMNING THE WHOLE SUMMIT EXERCISE.

12. PORTUGAL: MOST ARTICLES ON THE CARTER-EANES MEETING WERE OVERWHELMINGLY FAVORABLE. FRONT-PAGE TREATMENT WAS GIVEN TO THE PRESIDENT'S MENTION OF FURTHER ECONOMIC AID TO AND MILITARY COOPERATION WITH PORTUGAL.

13. JAPAN: MOST PAPERS STRESSED PRESIDENT CARTER'S WARNINGS ABOUT THE USSR AND THE WARSAW PACT AND HIS CALL FOR STRENGTHENING NATO. A NIHON KEIZAI COMMENTARY ON MAY 11 SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT WAS

--"TRYING TO USE THE STRENGTHENING OF THE NATO STRUCTURE AS A STEPPING-STONE TO PROMOTE RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, WHICH ARE DEADLOCKED AT PRESENT." THIS STRATEGY, THE PAPER ADDED, WAS IN CONTRAST TO THE KISSINGER DIPLOMACY, "WHICH GAVE TOP PRIORITY TO THE PROMOTION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 07 STATE 107342 TOSEC 040244

DETENTE."

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## Message Attributes

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